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February 28, 2005

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Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
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Re: U.S. Utility Patent Application
Application No. 09/613,903; Filed: July 11, 2000
For: **Nucleic Acid Ladders**
Inventor: Heather J. Jordan
Our Ref: 0942.4450001/RWE/AWL

Sir:

Transmitted herewith for appropriate action are the following documents:

1. Form PTO-2038 Credit Card Payment Form for \$790.00;
2. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) Transmittal;
3. Amendment and Reply Under 37 C.F.R. 1.116; and
4. One (1) return postcard.

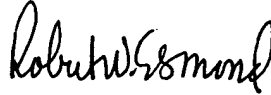
It is respectfully requested that the attached postcard be stamped with the date of filing of these documents, and that it be returned to our courier. In the event that extensions of time are necessary to prevent abandonment of this patent application, then such extensions of time are hereby petitioned.

Commissioner for Patents
February 28, 2005
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The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is hereby authorized to charge any fee deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to our Deposit Account No. 19-0036.

Respectfully submitted,

STERNE, KESSLER, GOLDSTEIN & FOX P.L.L.C.



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RWE/AWL:cpn
Enclosures

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